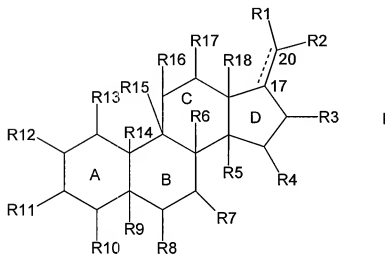


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A compound according to formula I



wherein the fused rings A, B, C and D are independently saturated or ~~fully or~~ partially unsaturated;

wherein the bond between C-17 and C-20 is depicted with a full and a dotted line to indicate that said bond can be a single or a double bond;

wherein R1 represents a straight or branched, saturated or unsaturated C₁₋₁₀ alkyl; is hydrogen, halogen, a lipophilic group, $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ or $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$, wherein n is 0 or 1 and p is an integer from 1 and 5; each Z independently represents straight or branched hydrocarbon diradical, optionally substituted with C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkenyl, C₁₋₆ alkynyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, C₁₋₆ aminoalkoxy, C₁₋₆ aminoalkyl, C₁₋₆ aminoalkylaminocarbonyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl or C₁₋₆ alkyl heteroaryl;

each R independently represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆aminoalkyl, C₁₋₆aminoalkoxy or C₁₋₆aminoalkylaminocarbonyl, all of which are optionally substituted with alkyl or C₁₋₆aminoalkyl;

provided that at least one Z is substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkenyl, C₁₋₆alkynyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, C₁₋₆aminoalkoxy, C₁₋₆aminoalkyl, C₁₋₆aminoalkylaminocarbonyl,

C₁₋₆alkylC₃₋₈cycloalkyl or C₁₋₆alkylheteroaryl, or at least one R is different from hydrogen;

R2 represents halogen, C₁₋₄alkyl, optionally substituted with COOH, C₁₋₄alkoxy, -COOH [[,]] or -(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)₂ or C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)₂, wherein n is 0 or 1 and p is an integer from 1 and 5;

each Z independently represents straight or branched hydrocarbon diradical, optionally substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkenyl, C₁₋₆alkynyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, amino,

C₁₋₆aminoalkoxy, C₁₋₆aminoalkyl, C₁₋₆aminoalkylaminocarbonyl,

C₁₋₆alkylC₃₋₈cycloalkyl or C₁₋₆alkylheteroaryl; and

each R independently represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆aminoalkyl,

C₁₋₆aminoalkoxy or C₁₋₆aminoalkylaminocarbonyl, all of which are optionally substituted with alkyl or C₁₋₆aminoalkyl;

provided that at least one Z is substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkenyl, C₁₋₆alkynyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, C₁₋₆aminoalkoxy, C₁₋₆aminoalkyl, C₁₋₆aminoalkylaminocarbonyl,

C₁₋₆alkylC₃₋₈cycloalkyl or C₁₋₆alkylheteroaryl, or at least one R is different from hydrogen;

R3 represents hydrogen halogen or O-R19, wherein R19 represents hydrogen, -SO₃, C₁₋₆alkyl [[,]] or C₁₋₆acyl or -(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)₂;

each of R4, R7, R8, ~~[[R11,]]~~ R12, R13, R16 and R17 independently represent hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, -OSO₃, or -O-acyl, $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ or $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$;

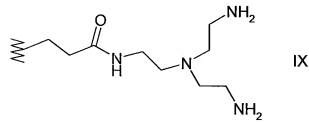
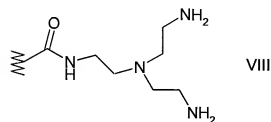
R10 represents hydrogen, methyl, halogen, hydroxy, -OSO₃, or -O-acyl, $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ or $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$;

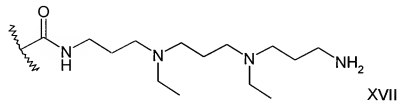
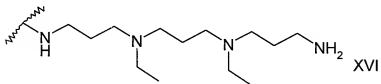
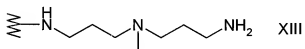
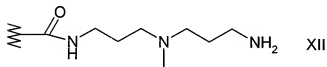
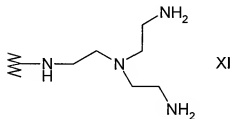
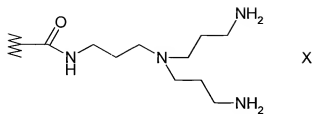
R11 represents hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, -OSO₃, -O-acyl, $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ or $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$;

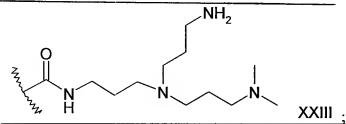
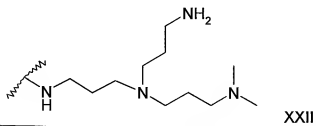
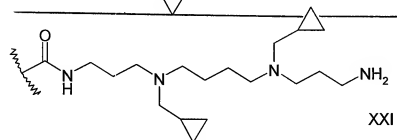
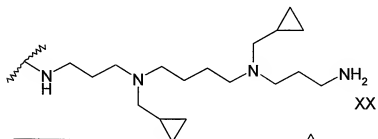
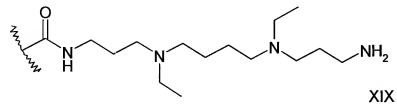
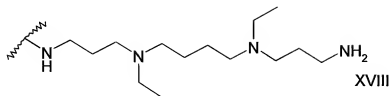
each of R5, R6, R9, R14, R15 and R18 independently represent hydrogen or methyl or are each independently absent when one of the fused rings, A, B, C and D are unsaturated so as to complete the valency of the carbon atom at that site;

provided that at least one, ~~and not more than three~~ of R1, R2 and, R4, R7, ~~R8~~, R10, R11, ~~R12, R13, R16 and R17~~ is $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ or $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$;

wherein R2 and/or R11 represents a moiety of the formula VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, XIII, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXI, XXII or XXIII







provided that the compound is not

3 β -hydroxy-6 β -(2-dimethylaminoethyl)amino-5 α -stigmastane,

3 β -hydroxy-6 β -(2-diethylaminoethyl)amino-5 α -stigmastane,

3 β -hydroxy-6 β -(3-dimethylaminopropyl)amino-5 α -stigmastane,

3 β -hydroxy-6 α -(2-diethylaminoethyl)amino-5 α -stigmastane,

3 β -hydroxy-6 β -(2-dimethylaminoethyl)amino-5 α -cholestane,

3 β -hydroxy-6 β -(2-diethylaminoethyl)amino-5 α -cholestane,

3 β -hydroxy-6 β -(3-dimethylaminopropyl)amino-5 α -cholestane,

3 β -hydroxy-6 α -(2-diethylaminoethyl)amino-5 α -cholestane,

20-(γ -diethylaminopropyl)-amino-5 α -pregnan-3 β -ol,

20-(β -diethylaminoethyl)-amino-5 α -pregnan-3 β -ol,

20-(β -dimethylaminoethyl)-amino-5 α -pregnan-3 β -ol,

20-(β -dimethylaminoethyl)-aminopregn-5-en-3 β -ol,

20-(β -diethylaminoethyl)-aminopregn-5-en-3 β -ol,

N(β -diethylaminoethyl)-3 α ,7 α ,12 α -trihydroxy-5 β -cholan-24-amide,

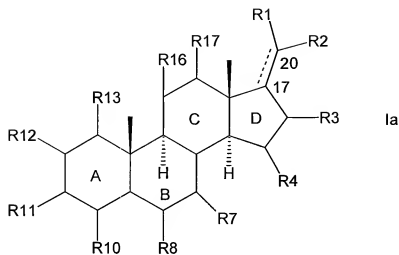
N(β -diethylaminoethyl)-3 α ,12 α -dihydroxy-5 β -cholan-24-amide,

N(β -diethylaminoethyl)-3 α ,7 α ,12 α -trihydroxy-5 β -cholan-24-amine, or

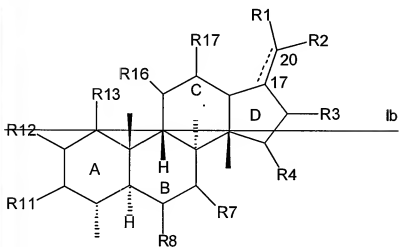
N(β -diethylaminoethyl)-3 α ,12 α -dihydroxy-5 β -cholan-24-amine, and

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters thereof.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R2 represents $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ or $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$.
3. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R7, R11 and/or R16 represents $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ or $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$.
- 4.-5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R19 represents $C_{1-6}alkyl$ or $C_{1-6}acyl$.
7. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R7, R11 and/or R16 represents OH_2 .
8. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R11 represents $-OSO_3$.
9. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R11 represents $-O-acyl$.
10. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 which has the general formula Ia



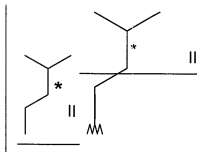
or which has the general formula Ib



11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 10, wherein R2 represents $-(Z)_n-$ $(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ or $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$.

13. (Original) A compound according to claim 12, wherein R7 and R11 are both hydroxy.
14. (Original) A compound according to claim 12, wherein R11 and R16 are both hydroxy.
15. (Original) A compound according to claim 12, wherein R3 is -OR19, wherein R19 is C₁-₆alkyl or C₁-₆acyl.
- 16.-17. (Cancelled)
18. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 12, wherein R1 is a moiety of formula II



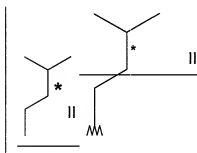
wherein the carbon-carbon bond denoted “*” is a single or double bond.

19. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 10, wherein R11 represents $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ or $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$.
20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) A compound according to claim 19, wherein R3 is O-R19, wherein R19 represents C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆acyl.

22.-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 19, wherein R1 is a moiety of formula II



wherein the carbon-carbon bond denoted “*” is a single or double bond.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 selected from the list consisting of
 21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,
 21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-11-desoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-
 21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-16-desacetoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-13(17)-en-17,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusidan-21-carboxamide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-3β-desacetoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-9(11)-en-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

24-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-3α-hydroxy-5β-cholan-24-amide,

22-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-23,24-bisnor-5-cholenic-22-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-fusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-fusid-21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-3-OSO₃-11-desoxy-17,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-11-desoxy-16-desacetoxy-17S,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

22-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-23,24-bisnor-5-cholenic-22-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-3-OAc-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-3-OSO₃-11-desoxy-17,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-11-desoxy-16-desacetoxy-17S,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

3-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-fusidic acid,

21-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-11-desoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-16-desacetoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

24-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-3 α -hydroxy-5 β -cholan-24-amide,

21-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-11desoxy-16-desacetoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

3-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-fusidic acid,

3-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-fusidic acid.

27. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1, optionally together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or vehicle, and optionally other therapeutically active agents.

28. - 32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) A method of preventing or treating a bacterial infection, the method comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

34. - 36. (Cancelled)

37. (New) A compound according to claim 1 which has the general formula Ib

